



April 3rd, 2026
7pm Good Friday
“The Loving Way”

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs. Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you.

Vision Statement

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

Mission Statement

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.***

Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.

Lay Readers

Donna Christman, Michael Roth, Doug Brace, Eric Minnich,
Janice Metzger, Dan Topp

Ushers & Greeters

Phil Wehr, Carol James, Ron Pope, Janice Metzger

Sound

Pat Sorg

"You don't choose a life, you live a life." — *The Way* (2010)
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert- Isaiah 43:19

Lent is a time of reflection, and there's nothing like a pilgrimage to conjure that up. Making intentional journeys has been a ritual of humankind across time and traditions. Inspired by passages in the Judeo-Christian scriptures that talk about the journeys, roads, and pathways of life, we will make our way together through this season. The popular and poignant movie, *The Way*, about a father's pilgrimage in honor of his late son on the famed Camino de Santiago in France and Spain, accompanies us as our modern-day inspiration to live the life we've been given to the fullest.

Prelude Music

Elegie in E-flat minor, Op. 3, No. 1 from "Morceaux de fantaisie"
Sergie Rachmaninoff with Via Dolorosa Billy Sprague and Niles Borop
Blake Hoppes

WE GATHER

Meeting One Another on The Way

Welcome & Announcements

Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to this meal of God's love and grace.
If you are at home, we invite you to find something to eat and drink that represents Communion to you.

Here: We invite you to come forward to the railing to receive communion. The ushers will direct you when to come forward. The pastors will let you know when to leave the railing. Please place your empty cup in the trays as you return to your seat. If you want to be served in your seats, let the ushers know and the pastors will come to you.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray.

Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups.
Please choose either.

We often share parts of worship responsively.

Phrases in Bold = All Read

Phrases NOT in bold = Leader

Preparing Together

A Wilderness Wandering People Jim and Jeanie Strathdee

Leader: We have been traveling along our spiritual journey in this worship series based on the movie, "The Way." It has been a story of pilgrimage to the center of our hearts. It is a story that we all live—one of grief at times and yet also one of redemption and hope. This is the story of Jesus' life as well. We come to the night we remember his last supper with his loved ones and his own journey to the cross.

This is the moment that Jesus travels the most difficult part of the human path—suffering. Whatever suffering we have experienced on our own life paths, Jesus knows the pain. In the midst of all of it, he invites the disciples to a surprising turn in the face of violence and death: that in the navigating of our lives, the most important choice we can embrace is that of love, no matter what.

All Sung:

**We are a wilderness wandering people
on a journey of the soul.
May we find our destination in our longing to be whole.
Our Holy God is calling to us.
With Jesus by our side
may compassion be our compass;
may the Spirit be our guide,
on The Way,
on The Way,
on The Way.**

Prayers for the Path

ALL

**God of Our Lives,
be with us on The Way.**

**At times we do not want to face the hardest parts of the journey,
afraid of the pain and suffering that comes with life.**

How do we withstand these times?

We come seeking your company.

Help us. Be with us. Comfort us. Yet nudge us forward.

Amen.

Greeting Each Other

The best part of having companions on The Way is the sharing that we get to do that makes us feel just a little less alone. During this series, we will share answers to a common question with each other. I invite you to turn to someone you did not come to church with and answer this question: "Where do you pray for more love?"

***Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other and to share your answers with each other and for the first song.**

***Hymn** How Great Thou Art

All Sung:

**O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

Please be seated.

WE PROCLAIM

Discovering Ourselves on The Way

First Reading

John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (Inclusive Bible)

Leader: In the next reading, we hear Jesus declare the heart of his journey and the one in which he wants his disciples to continue after he is gone: the journey of love and service. In a radical move, he took on the lowest position in the room—that of the servant who washes the feet of the guests. It is difficult for us to grasp just how unusual this was and how much it would have startled the disciples. Yet we know that when we are startled, we pay attention. And perhaps this is the effect that Jesus wanted as he not only told them what the most important thing is, but he demonstrated it

Reader: It was before the Feast of Passover, and Jesus realized that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to Abba God. He had always loved his own in this world, but now he showed how perfect this love was. The Devil had already convinced Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. So during supper, Jesus—knowing that God had put all things into his own hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God—rose from the table, took off his clothes and wrapped a towel around his waist. He then poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and dry them with the towel that was around his waist. "Rabbi, you're not going to wash my feet, are you?" Jesus answered, "You don't realize what I am doing right now, but later you'll understand." Peter replied, "You'll never wash my feet!" Jesus answered, "If I don't wash you, you have no part with me." Simon Peter said to Jesus, "Then, Rabbi, not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!" Jesus said, "Any who have taken a bath are clean all over and only need to wash their feet—and you're clean,

though not every one of you." For Jesus knew who was to betray him. That is why he said, "Not all of you are clean." After washing their feet, Jesus put his clothes back on and returned to the table. He said to them, "Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me "Teacher," and "Sovereign"—and rightly, for so I am. If I, then—your Teacher and Sovereign—have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. "The truth of the matter is, no subordinate is greater than the superior; no messenger outranks the sender. Once you know all these things, you'll be blessed if you put them into practice...

Once Judas left, Jesus said, "Now is the Chosen One glorified and God is glorified as well. If God has been glorified, God will in turn glorify the Chosen One and will do so very soon. My little children, I won't be with you much longer. You'll look for me, but what I said to the Temple authorities, I say to you: where I am going, you cannot come. I give you a new commandment: Love one another. And you're to love one another the way I have loved you. This is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another."

WE RESPOND

Opening to the Holy on The Way

A Ritual for Getting Out of Our Own Way

Leader: We have been accompanied in this season by prayer poems by Rev. John Winn. We have called them "Prayers for Getting Out of Our Own Way" and their confessional stance has helped us realize how often we are the ones who prevent ourselves from moving forward toward life. Rev. John Winn was a "pastor to pastors" in his ministry as he helped many pastors through the most difficult parts of their lives. As a child he was the victim of polio and spent long hours in convalescence as a young boy, giving him a life-long gift of self-reflection and relationship with God. His prayer poem we read tonight reminds us that no matter how insecure we feel about our journeys and our ability to move forward, Jesus knows and loves us because he has been there. And no matter how many stones you are carrying around like the weight of the world, you can have peace... just ask

Stillness

Lindy Thompson, Mark Miller

All Sung:

**Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive**



I am convinced, Dear God,
that "all things work together"
They may clatter and clink,
groan and ache, sputter and falter,
but it seems there is a connectedness in all things,
however hidden and uncertain it may be;
and however long and patiently
we must seek before we "get it."

What I am not convinced of, O God,
is that "all things work together for good."
I have read that more than once in the Holy Book
and I want very much for it to be true,
but this is not always my experience.
My Honesty about this seems to be
challenging my capacity to Hope.
I do not want to surrender either.

Is the good I am longing for always
off in some future time, in some unknown place?
Is it right in front of me,
but my own ego and self are so tangled
that they cancel it out?
I work very hard at "loving God,"
as well as at loving the persons around me.
Indeed, loving the persons around me seems
to be the best way that I can "love God."
As a result, though, much of the time
I only feel taken for granted or even exploited.

Let me say this:
I know that all things are not possible for me.
Perhaps all I can do now is find
whatever good I can in every circumstance
that is integral to my life and
extract it, embrace it, and share it
with those I care about the most.
That will not be easy for me, Lord.
Some circumstances hurt so much
that I seem blinded to any good they may hold,
but I have been trying for a long time.

Promise me, that whenever it happens again
that all I can feel is clatter and clink,
groan and ache, sputter and falter,

that you will send me a friend
who has felt the same way at times
and who can help me find a way out and beyond—
someone like Jesus.
Amen.

All Sung:
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF
GOD'S CHURCH AT UNION

Easter Mission Offering: You can support this by using the Easter Mission Offering envelope in your envelope packet, or a blank envelope marked - Easter Mission, or donate electronically by using any of the options below and noting "Easter Mission."

Habitat for Humanity Founded in 1989, Habitat Lehigh Valley brings together people from all walks of life to help others. Habitat Lehigh Valley works by partnering with local businesses, individuals and faith-based groups to build and renovate housing for families in need in our community. Their objective is to provide families with a decent home in a safe neighborhood. Additionally, families help to revitalize neighborhoods and increase the local tax base.

Meals on Wheels For over 50 years, Meals on Wheels has been passionately committed to serving seniors and adults. Their mission is simple yet profound: to provide nutritious meals and foster social connection across the Greater Lehigh Valley. They have become an integral part of the lives of over 2,000 seniors and adults with disabilities.



Thank you for all the ways that you help us make God's dream a reality at Union UCC.

ELECTRONIC GIVING <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> or QR code. Single or ongoing donation with credit/debit card. Help with fees if you can.

FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.

Venmo @unionuccneffs Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.

Cash or checks to "Union UCC" Place in Sunday's offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks).

Please reach out to Don Penrod or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.

Electronic Giving



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Ambassadors (everyone!): Share our news, events, and spirit on social media and with your friends, family, and neighbors.

That's what keeps us relevant, engaged, and growing!

Watch for Union UCC merchandise soon!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Relevant • Engaged • Growing

Music Offering: The Old Rugged Cross George Bennard
Blake Hoppes

Please stand in body or spirit.

Offering Response

ALL SUNG:

**Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I am found,
Was blind, but now I see.**

Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to this meal of God's love and grace.
If you are at home, we invite you to find something to eat and drink that represents Communion to you.

Here: We invite you to come forward to the railing to receive communion. The ushers will direct you when to come forward. The pastors will let you know when to leave the railing. Please place your empty cup in the trays as you return to your seat. If you want to be served in your seats, let the ushers know and the pastors will come to you.

A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray.

Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups.
Please choose either.

After you receive communion you will receive a seashell from a bowl of water as a blessing.

The scallop shell has long been a symbol of St. James, the apostle whose cathedral in Galicia, Spain is the final destination for many pilgrims who walk the El Camino. Many of the trail markers along the Camino bear the image of scallop shells to assure travelers that they are on the right path.

The love of Jesus washes your weary feet and soul day after day
on your journey of life and faith. You are on the right path.

And, you are never alone. He is present with us, like all our loved
ones, in the ways we carry on the journey into the future,
caring for and tending one another along The Way.

Invitation

Will you open yourselves to the grace of Jesus Christ
that is always and already available here at this table?

If so, say, "Open us to your grace, Lord."

"Open us to your grace, Lord."

Will you open yourselves once again to the call of Jesus Christ?

If so, say, "Open us to your call, Lord."

"Open us to your call, Lord."

Will you open yourselves to the possibility of transformation
through Jesus Christ?

If so, say, "Transform us, O Lord."

"Transform us, O Lord."

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, Creator of all that was,
and is, and is to come.

You formed us in your image,
creating all in goodness,
asking us to walk with You in love.

When we held back from Your invitation,
You sought us out, encouraging us on our way, time and again.

You led those who could not see by a road they did not know.
You have turned nighttime before them into light.
You have smoothed out the rough places and made them plain.
You have released the prisoners from the dungeon.
You have made all things new.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him to walk with the poor, the captive, and
the oppressed
and to proclaim freedom and abundance in your name.
On dusty paths and lakeside shores he encountered friends,
strangers, and enemies,
inviting them to journey with him and to eat with him.
He offered newness of life and renewed covenants of love by
water and the Spirit.

On the night that he gave himself up for the path of justice,
he was at the table with his friends.
He invited them... and he invites us,
to pause in our quest for destinations and savor the company of
each other
and the ways in which he still is present in our gathering together.

He took the bread, he broke it and blessed it and shared it.
"Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the cup, he poured into it, blessed it and shared it.
"Do this in remembrance of me."

And so,
in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ on this pilgrimage,
walking together one with each other,
working together in ministry to all the world,
until all are fed and all are loved.

We pray in your spirit of your grace, and call, and transformation,
Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Music Offering: Stillness Lindy Thompson, Mark Miller

Adult Choir

Abby Kern, Solo

Final Reading: A Pilgrimage from Table to Cross

John 18:1-19:42 (NRSVUE)

Leader: The table has been set, the water poured into the basin, the candles of vigil are beginning to grow. During this final reading—the narrative of the supposed last stop of the journey for Jesus—we will take a pilgrimage as the words fill the room.

Donna Christman: After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these people go." This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me."

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

Michael Roth: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and

the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Doug Brace: Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Eric Minnich: Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to

keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.

Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!"

Janice Metzger: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?"

Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!"

They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

Dan Topp: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Pastor Kris: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified

so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth, so that you also may continue to believe.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Were You There?
Abby Kern

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

WE GO FORTH

Continuing with Jesus on The Way

Benediction

Leader: We know the rest of the story. We know that this is not the end of the journey for Jesus or for his followers, including you who sit here this night. But for this moment we mourn the losses of this world. Every day love and light and grace are crucified in one way or another, by thoughts, words, and actions that come out of fear of the very thing we remember here... death. But we have no need for fear, because, like I said, we know the rest of the story. And so let us move from here praying that The Way of love and friendship will become the way of the world.

We usually leave this service in silence.

Blessings on your vigil until Easter morning.

**May you know God is with you and that we are with you
as you journey through life and
toward Easter, resurrection, and new life.**

Go in Silence, Go in Peace, Go in Love.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Resources for you for this season leading you to on The Way to Easter:

Movie-The Way (2010) When his son dies while hiking the famed Camino de Santiago pilgrimage route in the Pyrenees, Tom flies to France to claim the remains. Looking for insights into his estranged child's life, he decides to complete the 500-mile mountain trek to Spain. Tom soon joins up with other travelers and realizes they're all searching for something. The Friday and Sunday classes will be watching the movie. You can also stream it on several sites.

Book- Wisdom Walking: Pilgrimage as a Way of Life Gil Stafford
The Friday and Sunday adult classes are reading this. Join us! Extra copies are available on the table in the lobby.

Easter Sunday Worship

**6:30am Sunrise Worship in the Grove and Online
8am and 10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary and Online**

Mimosas and the Easter Bunny!

**Join us after 8am and 10:30am worship on the front lawn and steps of the church for a celebratory mimosa, orange juice, and snack.
The Easter Bunny will be joining us.**

Thank you to:

Sound Team Doug Albert, Mike Baer, Pat Sorg, Karl Klinger, Dawn Dengler.

Sunday Set Up Staff and Tech Team Ryleigh Minnich, Claire Puia, Payge Haydt

Flowers Sponsors for the Sanctuary and for our Visitation List and our **Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers** for flower and Communion delivery to those on our Visitation List.

ALL who helped to make our Lent, Holy Week, and Easter so meaningful. Thank you to everyone who helped clean and decorate our sanctuary, church, and grove. Thank you to those who served as choir members, musicians, ushers, greeters, and worship participants. Thank you to our staff, Consistory, and leaders for giving your time and talents so generously.

And thank you to The Easter Bunny, his helper, and the Mimosa and Snack Team.

Thank you Union UCC community for all you do to make God's dream one that is filled with love and spirit here.

Worship Theme: c. Worship Design Studio

Worship Design Team: Kathy Bonsell, Claire Kern, Deb Topp, Pastor Kris

Easter Flower Set Up: Rick and Kathy Bonsell

Special thanks to Kerry Snyder, Ron Snyder, Pastor Kayli, and Nikki Pentland for altar decoration supplies.



Flower Sponsors

*Union United Church of Christ
Easter 2026*



Sponsor

Suzanne Lorah
John Fabian
Ron Pope
Darlene & Dennis Kreitz
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Carol Mesics

Dean & Diane Schaller
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Jack & Karen Nuschke
George & Diane Karetsky
Jeff & Elaine Schoemaker
Marlene & Dale Blose

In Honor of

Annette Bauer & Barbara Scheirer
Bonnie Herzog
Emily & Brandon Zellner
Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren
Grandchildren: Emilia, Cole, Zoey & Emma
Grandchildren: Ethan, Clay, Carolyn, and Alexa
Grandchildren: Kate, Luke, Caron and Logan
Marilyn Sechler
Our Children & Grandchildren
Our Family
Our Grandchildren
Sister, Charlotte Bauer
Grandson, Alex

Sponsor

Ryleigh, Hannah & Raegan Minnich
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Kathy & Sarah Ochs
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Karen & Jennifer Fleming
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Ann R. Peters

Bonnie Herzog
Don & Marlene Steffy
Lucille, Lana, & Leoma & Family
Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren
Don & Sherry Penrod
Ron Pope
John Fabian

In Memory of

Aunt Mikaela

Beth Cherry
Bill Ochs
Bob & Gloria Nagle
Charles Mesics
Curis & Janet Hoffman

David L. Fleming
Delphin & Muriel Hughes
Donald & Ruby Peters, Eleanor & Norman Peters, and Iva M. Kern
Donald J. Herzog and Veronica J. Fabian
Earl & Lucretia Nuss; Walter & Mary Steffy
Esther Rauch

Fred & Ruth Roberts

Grandparents
Grandparents, Uncles, & Friends
Veronica Jean Fabian



Flower Sponsors

*Union United Church of Christ
Easter 2026*



Sponsor

Sharon K. Yurick
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Glenn & Susan Mattern
Karl, Jason & Adam
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Diane Christ
Judith Kern
Melissa, Mark, Cody, & Mak
ayla Kohler
Mary Alice Miller
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Donna Christman
Deana, Ryan & Brooke
Correll
Tami Wassum
Pat Warmkessel
Dean & Diane Schaller
Grandchildren
Suzanne Lorah
Jeff & Elaine Schoemaker
Sharon K. Yurick
Pamela Kelchner
Marlene & Dale Blöse

In Memory of

Husband, Robert J. & Son, Craig M. Yurick
Jack & Janice Liscka
Jack & Mary Nuschke Sr. & Jim Hankinson
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Loved Ones
Lynne Klinger
Mary G. Christ
Michael J. Kern
Michael J. Kern
Mother: Edna Best
Mothers
Our Parents
Our Parents
Parents
Parents
Parents and Brothers
Parents and Tom
Parents: Donald & Peggy Ressler, and
Cleonice & George Borman, Jr.
Parents: John L. & Marguerite C.
Kemmerer
Parents: Marvin & Beatrice Christman
Rich Correll
Robert & Janice Herzog
Robert Person (Father)
Ronald Sechler
Ruth and Gordon Rothrock
Sharon Minnich
Sister, Charlotte Bauer
Sister, Maureen Bennicoff and Brother,
Gary Kemmerer
Snyder, Hausman, Kennel, & Semmel
Families
Loved Ones

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
Last Week	\$5,978.77	8 AM	65
Calendar Year 2026 (Jan.-Feb)	\$61,191.32	10:30 AM	141
Calendar Year 2025 (Jan.-Feb)	\$59,944.00	Sunday School	-
Change from Last Year	2.1%	God First	-
Budget FY 2025-2026 (July-Feb)	\$290,630.00	Faith on Tap	42
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (July-Feb)	\$290,041.00	Breathe	-
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-0.2%	2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		Last Week	\$100, 1,200 Lbs
		YTD	\$300, 2,100 Lbs,
		Easter Mission	\$2,826.90

Presentations to the Glory of God

In Memory of my Grandparents, Alan and Ruth Gilbert
- Dan Haftl

Good News Sponsor– for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

Children’s Bulletin Sponsor– for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children. Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or Children’s Bulletin. Contact Sarah to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.